INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO. 2061-MC-FFS

DATE: November 7, 2019

TO: Iowa Medicaid Physicians, Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners, Hospitals, Clinics, Maternal Health Centers, Screening Centers, Family Planning Agencies, Local Education Agencies, Home Health Agencies, and Pharmacies

APPLIES TO: Managed Care (MC), Fee-for-Service (FFS)

FROM: Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS), Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

RE: Vaccinations for Medicaid Children and Hawki members

EFFECTIVE: Upon Receipt

This Informational Letter clarifies the coverage of vaccinations for Medicaid Children and Hawki members.

Medicaid Children
Iowa Medicaid children receive vaccines through the Vaccines for Children Program (VFC). VFC is a federally funded program for children ages 0-18 at no cost to member. In order to be eligible for the VFC program the child must be 18 years old or younger and meet one of the following criteria:

- Medicaid-eligible
- Uninsured
- Underinsured
- American Indian or Alaska Native

You must be a VFC provider to provide vaccines for Medicaid children. Iowa Medicaid pays for the administration of the vaccine, but not the vaccine product itself.

For more information on VFC in Iowa, see the Iowa Department of Public Health's website: https://idph.iowa.gov/immtb/immunization/vfc.

Hawki Children
Children enrolled in Hawki or presenting a Hawki MCO member ID must be vaccinated with a private purchased vaccine as they are NOT eligible for a VFC vaccine as Hawki children are considered to be insured and therefore do not meet the criteria for VFC. The MCOs are to pay for both the administration of the vaccine and the vaccine itself. This applies to vaccinations given at a public health clinic or at a provider's office.

Vaccines at pharmacies are payable under the Hawki medical benefit. Pharmacies can bill for vaccines for Hawki children by using a CMS 1500 claim form.

If you have any questions, please contact the IME Provider Services Unit at 1-800-338-7909, or email at IMEProviderServices@dhs.state.ia.us.